

MINUTES OF THE
FREMONT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION (EDAC)
THURSDAY, September 8, 2011, 8:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M.
ARDENWOOD CONFERENCE ROOM
3300 CAPITOL AVENUE, BUILDING A

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1. **CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Bacon, Chang, Alternate Commissioner Hatton for Cox, Dutra, Lee, Tran

Commissioners Absent: Bonior, Kraus

Staff Present: Christina Briggs, Economic Development Manager
Amy Rakley, Associate Planner
Lori Marra, Environmental Specialist
Kim Marshall, Executive Assistant

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The regular minutes of July 7, 2011 were approved. MSC Dutra/Tran, all ayes.

4. **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

None

5. **COMMISSIONER/STAFF REPORT ON SECTORS**

Industrial

Manager Briggs shared that the Alameda County Workforce Investment Board (WIB) quickly mobilized to create a Rapid Response Team and put together workshops and information for former Solyndra employees and former Solyndra vendors. The closure of Solyndra leaves about 1.5 million square feet of vacant space in Fremont and Milpitas.

Solaria is looking for USDA funding for a Central Valley facility of about 120,000 sf. They will keep the Fremont location in Ardenwood as their headquarters.

Tesla permits are moving forward.

Union Pacific is looking to sale 94 acres of the Northern parcel. Union Pacific sent letters to select developers. UP will maintain some of the land for rail operations.

Retail

Manager Briggs stated that the Tree of Life Church has inquired about the Diamond Palace location.

On October 3 at a special City Council meeting, the finance plan for Midtown will be discussed. The Community Plan & Design Guidelines will be presented early 2012.

Mark Robson met with Whole Foods and City staff yesterday. The Whole Foods store will be 38,000 square feet with an additional 13,000 square feet of retail. They understand that a General Plan amendment will be needed.

Managers Briggs shared that a fitness center has inquired about the Cinedome location in the Mowry East Shopping Center.

Toys R Us/Babies R Us is now open and doing well.

Labor/Employment

Manager Briggs stated that the July unemployment for Fremont is 8% which is in the middle in the East Bay.

6. COMMISSIONER/STAFF REPORT ON CORPORATE SITE VISITS

None

7. COMMISSIONER/STAFF REPORT ON EDAB, JVS, OTHER MEETINGS

Manager Briggs shared that there were over 40 Fremont companies at this year's Semicon, a large manufacturing conference held at the Moscone Center.

On September 15, the City will host a Commercial Green Building workshop to get feedback from developers and businesses impacted by the changes.

8. SCHEDULED ITEMS

8.1 Climate Action Plan

Associate Planner Amy Rakley shared that her role is to be a resource to the community and to businesses. They want to educate businesses on new ways to do business. The CAP will go to the Planning Commission on October 27 and the City Council in December. The Plan establishes the approach but does not require regulation.

Commissioner Dutra asked about the new requirement in high density development for 5 foot width on sidewalks. The cost may be prohibitive to development.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Green Building Policy

10. ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 a.m.